

Amendments to the specification:

On page 1, after the title of the invention, please insert the following heading:

Background of the Invention

On page 1, please amend the second paragraph as follows:

The invention relates to a communication system with network nodes as generically defined by the preamble to claim 4 and to a method for controlling a communication system as generically defined by the preamble to claim 10.

On page 2, please delete the first paragraph.

On page 2, before the second paragraph, please insert the following heading:

Summary of the Invention

On page 2, please amend the second paragraph as follows:

One advantage of the invention is that the communication system has a plurality of networks, which can be configured flexibly. In this way, the network structure can be adapted to malfunctions of the network nodes or of the control units connected to the network nodes. The configuration can furthermore be adapted to various machine conditions as well. Depending on the particular application it may be advantageous to incorporate a network node into a first or a second network. For instance, control units that fail relatively often can be into

small networks or incorporated into networks upon whose failure either a malfunction is rapidly detected or only a slight impairment of the entire communication system results. Thus the communication system ~~as defined by claim 4~~ offers increased flexibility in the distribution of the various networks, which furthermore have signal paths that are independent of one another. Because of the independence of the signal paths, if one network fails, the capability of the other networks to function is advantageously unimpaired.

On page 3, before line 20, please insert the following heading:

Brief Description of the Drawings

On page 4, before line 3, please insert the following heading:

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments